

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEL AV 09233 150730Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-12 /095 W  
-----127109 150740Z /12

P R 150559Z NOV 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9300  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USMISSION USUN NY  
USMISSION SINAI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 9233

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: IS, EG, XF, MOPS  
SUBJECT: MORE REACTION TO SADAT'S OFFER TO VISIT THE KNESSET

REF: TEL AVIV 8166

1. SUMMARY: BEGIN WILL ASK THE KNESSET TOMORROW TO INVITE SADAT TO COME AND SPEAK BEFORE ISRAEL'S PARLIAMENT AND CONFER WITH THE POLITICAL PARTIES. AMID CONTINUED LIVELY SPECULATION THE PRESS IS INCREASINGLY AIRING THE VIEW THAT TOTAL WITHDRAWAL AND PALESTINIAN STATE ARE PRE-CONDITIONS TO SADAT'S COMING AND THE WHOLE THING IS A PLOY TO MAKE ISRAEL LOOK BAD. EVEN SO, ISRAELIS WELCOME SADAT'S OFFER-- ESPECIALLY FOR HIS HAVING REPEATED IT. MEANWHILE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS SOFTENED ITS KNEE-JERK REACTION OF REJECTING ANY AMERICAN-PALESTINIAN PROFESSOR AT GENEVA.  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TEL AV 09233 150730Z

END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING YESTERDAY'S CABINET SESSION THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT BEGIN WILL PROPOSE TO THE KNESSET ON NOVEMBER 15 THAT IT INVITE PRESIDENT SADAT TO ADDRESS IT AND TO CONFER PRIVATELY WITH EACH PARTY'S KNESSET FACTION. THE EARLIER TENTATIVE PLAN TO HAVE

BEGIN MAKE THE PROPOSAL TO THE KNESSET TODAY (NOVEMBER 14) WAS SCRAPPED IN FAVOR OF NOVEMBER 15 BECAUSE THE KNESSET SESSION ON THE LATTER DATE WILL BE DEVOTED TO A MEMORIAL FOR DAVID BEN GURION ON THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT BEN GURION WAS THE FIRST ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER TO DECLARE HIS READINESS TO MEET WITH ARAB LEADERS ANYWHERE AND THEREFORE HIS MEMORIAL WOULD BE A FITTING OCCASION FOR THE FORMAL KNESSET INVITATION TO SADAT.

3. MEANWHILE, THE PRESS CONTINUES TO EXPLORE THE MEANING OF THE NEW BEGIN-SADAT DIALOGUE AND TO MARVEL AT THE POSSIBILITY (NOT YET REGARDED AS CREDIBLE) OF A SADAT VISIT. SEVERAL PAPERS SPECULATE THAT ISRAEL WILL NOW TURN TO THE U.S. TO FOLLOW UP ON SADAT'S OFFER TO COME TO JERUSALEM. BEGIN IS REPORTED TO HAVE CAUTIONED AGAINST EXCESSIVE OPTIMISM BUT HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS CONTINUE TO INDICATE THAT HE ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO SADAT'S DECLARATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, DAYAN IS QUOTED AS SAYING A SADAT VISIT CANNOT REPLACE GENEVA.

4. AL HAMISHMAR SEES SADAT'S STATEMENT AS CAUSING GREAT UNREST IN THE ARAB WORLD AND THE JERUSALEM POST THINKS THAT HIS INITIATIVE MAY BE VIEWED AS A CHALLENGE TO ASSAD AND THE PLO BECAUSE OF THEIR PLACING OBSTACLES ON THE ROAD TO GENEVA. HAARETZ'S ARAB AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR, ODED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TEL AV 09233 150730Z

ZRAI, SAYS THAT SADAT HAS TAKEN A DELIBERATE RISK AND POINTS TO THE DANGER OF ASSASSINATION. HE MAINTAINS THAT THE EGYPTIAN TACTICS ARE SIMPLY TO PROVE BEFORE THE WORLD THAT ISRAEL IS AFRAID OF PEACE.

5. WHILE SOME PAPERS SEEM TO TAKE THE POSSIBILITY OF SADAT COMING TO ISRAEL MORE SERIOUSLY (FOR EXAMPLE HAARETZ) THAN OTHERS, THE PRESS IS GENERALLY MAINTAINING ITS SKEPTICISM THAT SADAT ACTUALLY MEANS TO COME. SEVERAL PAPERS TODAY QUOTE CAIRO'S AL AHRAH AND EL AKHBAR AS SAYING SADAT WILL ONLY GO TO JERUSALEM IF ASSURED BEFOREHAND THAT ISRAEL IS PREPARED TO WITHDRAW TO THE '67 LINES AND ACCEPT A PALESTINIAN STATE. THUS, THE PRESS GENERALLY APPEARS TO BE COMING AROUND TO THE LINE (EXPRESSED BY ZRAI) THAT SADAT MEANS FOR ISRAEL, IN EFFECT, TO REFUSE HIS OFFER TO COME BY REJECTING HIS TWO CONDITIONS FOR COMING. NONETHELESS, COMMENTATORS CONTINUE TO DWELL UPON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF AN ARAB LEADER UTTERING THE HERETOFORE UNMENTIONABLE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SADAT'S REPEATING THE OFFER BEFORE CODEL PRICE IS NOT OVERLOOKED. THE POST BELIEVES THAT SUCH AN EXERCISE GENERATES A DYNAMIC OF ITS OWN.

6. THE PRESS IS ALSO HAVING A HEYDAY SPECULATING ON THE EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL TO HAVE THE PALESTINIANS REPRESENTED BY ONE OR MORE AMERICAN PALESTINIAN PROFESSORS. THE GOVERNMENT'S INITIAL REACTION WAS TO REPEAT ITS POSITION THAT ONLY WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP RESIDENTS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. HOWEVER, CABINET SECRETARY ARYE NAOR INDICATED AFTER YESTERDAY'S CABINET MEETING THAT SUCH A PROPOSAL WOULD BE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.  
LEWIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, INVITATIONS, SPEECHES, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TELAV09233  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770421-0997  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771155/aaaabvhv.tel  
**Line Count:** 124  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 7706c519-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TEL AVIV 8166  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 577609  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MORE REACTION TO SADAT'S OFFER TO VISIT THE KNESSET  
**TAGS:** MOPS, OVIP, IS, EG, XF, (SADAT, ANWAR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7706c519-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009